

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/783,796

Examiner

Cheukfan Lee

Applicant(s)

SESEK ET AL.

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to July 19, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8 and 10-24, now renumbered 1-23, respectively.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12 February 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Cheukfan Lee

1. All pending claims 1-8 and 10-24 are allowed. Claims 1, 11, 14, and 17 are independent.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowed subject matter of claim 9, now canceled. Claim 1 is allowable over the prior art of record because the closest prior art Kurata et al. does not disclose a conductor in the communication link in combination with other limitations of claim 1.

Claims 11-13 were allowed in the previous Office action dated June 3, 2004. Reason for allowance given in that Office action is repeated here. Claim 11 and its dependent claims 12 and 13 are allowable over the prior art of record including Kurata et al. because the prior art does not disclose a combination of the claimed positioning apparatus and the control interface in addition to the scanner, the positioning apparatus having a plurality of coordinate specifying members for defining coordinates which together specify a valid bounded scan area on the scan surface of the scanner, and generating signals that identify the coordinates for controlling the initiation and completion of a scan operation of the scanner. The apparatus of Kurata et al. does not disclose a "positioning apparatus" and "control interface" as claimed in addition to the scanner. The scanner of Kurata et al. comprises the slidable cursors (23, 24). The slidable cursors alone are not considered to constitute a positioning apparatus since the cursors alone do not generate signals that identify the coordinates as claimed in claim 11.

Claim 14 has been amended to include allowable subject matter including the L-shaped housing that includes the first and second set of slidable members, which housing is an external attachment to a standard scanner. Claims 15 and 16 depend upon claim 14.

Claims 17 and 24 have been amended to further define the positioning apparatus to be an L-shaped positioning apparatus communicatively attached to the scanning device, which L-shaped apparatus is not taught by Kurata et al. Claims 18-23 depend upon claim 17.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cheukfan Lee whose telephone number is (703) 305-4867. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (703) 305-4712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2622

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Cheukfan Lee
Nov. 26, 2004


Cheukfan Lee